AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. Canceled.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching a heart valve prosthesis in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a fastener having a head and a sharp tip, a prosthesis, and a separate reinforcement, the reinforcement comprising a first leg and a second leg connected together with a top portion;

positioning the prosthesis comprising leaflets with a plurality of commissure supports separated by a plurality of scallops in a selected position proximate an aortic wall, a root, or a pulmonary artery wall;

positioning the reinforcement along an inner surface of at least one of the commissure supports, wherein the reinforcement has at least one aperture, wherein an end of the first leg extends to a first scallop and an end of the second leg extends to a second scallop, wherein the reinforcement is configured to be positioned proximate a curved outflow edge of the at least one commissure supports ; and

inserting the tip of the fastener through the at least one aperture in the reinforcement, the prosthesis and the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall to attach the heart valve prosthesis in a patient.

21. Canceled.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching a heart valve prosthesis in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a separate reinforcement having at least one aperture, the reinforcement comprising a first leg and a second leg connected together with a top portion;

providing a fastener having a head and a sharp tip;

inserting the fastener through the at least one aperture in the reinforcement;

positioning a prosthesis comprising leaflets with a plurality of commissure supports separated by a plurality of scallops in a selected position proximate an aortic wall, a root, or a pulmonary artery wall;

positioning the reinforcement along an inner surface of at least one of the commissure supports, wherein an end of the first leg extends to a first scallop and an end of the second leg extends to a second scallop, wherein the reinforcement is configured to be secured proximate a curved outflow edge of the commissure supports; and

inserting the tip of the fastener through the prosthesis and through an aortic wall or root or a pulmonary artery wall to attach the heart valve prosthesis to a patient.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis comprises a stentless porcine valve.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein each of the commissure supports of the prosthesis comprises at least one reinforcement.

25. Canceled.

26. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein a plurality of fasteners are inserted to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the fastener further comprises an elongated portion, the tip at an end of the extended portion and the head on the end opposite the tip, the tip passing through the commissure support and through the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall.

28-29. Canceled.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising providing a barb on the tip of the fastener to maintain the fastener in place after insertion.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis comprises a tissue valve.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising providing the head of the fastener with a shape such that the head is larger than a diameter of the elongated portion of the fastener.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 wherein the elongated portion of the fastener extends through the prosthesis and the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall.

34. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching a heart valve prosthesis in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a fastener having a head and a sharp tip, a prosthesis, and a separate reinforcement, the reinforcement comprising a first leg and a second leg connected together with a top portion;

positioning the prosthesis comprising leaflets with valve commissure supports separated by a plurality of scallops in a selected position proximate an aortic wall, a root, or a pulmonary artery wall;

positioning the reinforcement along an outer surface of the prosthesis, the reinforcement having at least one aperture, wherein an end of the first leg extends to a first scallop and an end of the second leg extends to a second scallop, wherein the

reinforcement is configured to be proximate a curved outflow edge of the prosthesis;

inserting the tip of the fastener through the prosthesis, the at least one aperture in the reinforcement, and through an aortic wall or root or a pulmonary artery wall to attach the heart valve prosthesis to the patient.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis comprises a polymer valve.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the prosthesis further comprises a second reinforcement attached to a scallop formed between the commissure supports of the prosthesis, the reinforcement having apertures for insertion of the fastener.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the fasteners are inserted along a curvilinear path.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the tip of the fastener is tapered.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein each of the commissure supports of the prosthesis comprises at least one reinforcement.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein a plurality of fasteners are inserted to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the fastener further comprises an elongated portion, the tip at an end of the extended portion and the head on the end opposite the tip, the tip passing through the commissure support and through the aortic wall or root or the

pulmonary artery wall to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or root or the pulmonary artery wall.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the reinforcement is positioned along at least one of the valve commissure supports along the outer surface of the prosthesis.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the reinforcement is positioned on the outside surface of the aorta.